

## CLAHRC researchers highlight potential to use patient-reported outcomes for emergency admissions.



Patient-reported outcome measures or PROMs are a well-established method of capturing the views of NHS patients, allowing the service to assess the quality of care delivered, from the patient perspective.

PROMs use pre- and post-operative surveys completed by patients to calculate their health gains after surgical treatment.

While there is an extensive PROM programme across the English NHS, they have yet to be used in emergency admissions. These account for nearly 40% of all hospital admissions and are an area of increasing demand. However, this is also an area where the NHS knows least about;

- the quality of patient outcomes,
- whether resources are being used effectively,

- and whether there are unexpected variation between different providers

CLAHRC researcher and PhD [Dr Esther Kwong investigated how to use PROMs](#) to evaluate the quality of acute and emergency hospital care in the NHS. Esther developed and tested PROMs with patients who underwent emergency admissions, establishing that it is feasible to use PROMs in this clinical area.

They are presented in four new CLAHRC BITEs – postcard summaries of Esther’s published academic papers.

### [Can Patient Reported Outcomes Measures \(PROMs\) be used in emergency admissions?](#)

CLAHRC North Thames  
November 2018



**National Institute for  
Health Research**

## CLAHRCBITE

Brokering Innovation Through Evidence

**Can Patient Reported Outcomes Measures (PROMs) be used in emergency admissions?**  
A cohort study exploring agreement of retrospective and contemporaneous PROMs with from hip and knee replacement patients in NHS hospitals.



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- the quality of patient outcomes,
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- and whether there are unexpected variation between different providers.

There is also growing acceptance of the importance of patients' views when evaluating interventions and assessing the quality of services. This means that it is necessary to devise ways in which accurate Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) – which asks patients for their views on their health (on their functional status, and their health related quality of life) – can be obtained.

By collecting PROMs (patients' views of their health) at different time points (e.g. before and after hospital care) can provide information on the effectiveness of their treatment, an important component in determining the quality of healthcare. Development to widen use of PROMs helps to focus the health service towards

patient-centred care. The challenge of using PROMs in emergency admissions is how we capture patients' view of their health before their emergency episode, and whether it is feasible to collect PROMs in these acute settings.

The aim of this project is to investigate the use of retrospective PROMs to identify a reliable method that would allow the extension of PROMs collection into this important area of health care. We conducted a study on the reliability of retrospective PROMs by investigating the relationship between retrospectively and contemporaneously collected PROMs and explored the influence on the relationship of patients' age and socio-economic status in orthopaedic patients.

This research is supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care North Thames (CLAHRC North Thames).

## [Feasibility of collecting retrospective patient reported outcome measures \(PROMs\) in emergency hospital admissions](#)

CLAHRC North Thames  
November 2018



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Outcome of emergency admissions is usually limited to mortality with little attempt to capture the views or health status of survivors. This is because of the challenge how we capture patients' view of their health before their emergency admission, and whether it is feasible to collect PROMs in these acute settings.

The aim was to assess the feasibility of collecting retrospective PROMs to capture the pre-admission health status of patients admitted as emergencies.

This research is supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care North Thames (CLAHRC North Thames).

## [Using patient-reported outcome measures \(PROMs\) for primary percutaneous coronary intervention](#)

## CLAHRCBITE

Brokering Innovation Through Evidence

Using patient reported outcome measures (PROMs)  
for primary percutaneous coronary intervention



**Routine measurement of the outcome of myocardial infarction (commonly known as “heart attack”) is usually limited to immediate morbidity and mortality.**

Our aim was to determine the response to patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) – which asks patients for their views on their health (such as their functional status, or their health related quality of life) and can be used to assess the effectiveness of care delivered to NHS patients, at three months later, identify response bias and explore the feasibility of comparing outcomes with their recalled view of their prior health state.

While there have been improvements in the management of cardiovascular disease, significant variation still exists in survival following acute myocardial infarction (AMI) between hospitals within England. Morbidity and mortality outcomes can be supplemented by Patient Reported Outcomes Measures (PROMs), but have not been used widely in routine care.

The feasibility of recruiting AMI patients to recall their pre-admission health status has been demonstrated, their likelihood of responding to a post-discharge mailed PROM questionnaire at three months is unknown.

### What was the aim of the project?

Asking patients’ for their views of their health is becoming a key and increasingly important focus in the NHS. It is also helps doctors and hospital providers know whether the care they have given helps patients recover, and to measure the effectiveness of care provided.

Emergency admissions account for nearly 40% of all NHS hospital admissions, making news headlines repeatedly due to their increasing rates and rising costs to the service; it is also an area where the NHS knows least about the quality of care in terms of patients views of their health and outcomes. PROMs are not currently used in this area of healthcare because the methods for doing so pose a challenge, for example in how we can record patients’ views of their health before their admission, and weather it is feasible to collect PROMs in acute care settings.

[Assessing Patient Reported Outcomes \(PROMS\) for emergency admissions: laparotomy for gastrointestinal conditions](#)



# CLAHRCBITE

Brokering Innovation Through Evidence

**Assessing Patient Reported Outcomes (PROMS) for emergency admissions: laparotomy for gastrointestinal conditions**



**Audit of emergency surgery aims to provide high quality comparative data from all providers, but is usually limited to immediate clinical outcomes during the acute hospital episode with little attempt to capture patients' views of their longer-term outcomes.**

Our aim was to determine the response rate to patient reported outcome measures (PROMs)- which asks patients for their views on their health (such as their functional status, or their health related quality of life) and can be used to assess the effectiveness of care delivered to NHS patients – for patients who underwent an emergency laparotomy for gastrointestinal conditions, identify response bias (a known risk in collecting surveys and questionnaires) and explore the feasibility of comparing patients' post-operative outcomes with their preoperative health based on their recalled view, collected during their admission.

## What was the aim of the project?

Asking patients' for their views of their health is becoming a key and increasingly important focus in the NHS. It is also helps doctors and hospital providers know whether the care they have given helps patients recover, and to measure the effectiveness of care provided.

Emergency admissions account for nearly 40% of all NHS hospital admissions, making news headlines repeatedly due to their increasing rates and rising costs to the service; it is also an area where the NHS knows least about the quality of care in terms of patients views of their health and outcomes. PROMs are not currently used in this area of healthcare because the methods for doing so pose a challenge, for example in how we can record patients' views of their health before their admission, and whether it is feasible to collect PROMs in acute care settings.

This project investigates the possibility of extending PROMs collection into this area to allow better assessment of health services, and therefore guide further advances in understanding the quality of our health services to patients.

Emergency Laparotomy is an operation used for people with severe abdominal pain to find the cause of the problem and